

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 EPG-02 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00

LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 DLOS-09 OES-07 AGRE-00

XMB-02 OPIC-03 NSC-05 SS-15 L-03 H-01 INT-05

DODE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 /115 W

-----041911Z 000607 /46

O R 041812Z MAY 77

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3705

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L EC BRUSSELS 04520

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EEC, CIEC, ETRD, PO, GR, CY, LE, EFIS, PLOS, EIND,

COMECON

SUBJECT: EC FOREIGN MINISTERS COUNCIL - MAY 3, 1977: HIGHLIGHTS

1. SUMMARY: DURING THEIR MAY 3 COUNCIL SESSION, THE EC FOREIGN MINISTERS DISCUSSED THE DOWNING STREET SUMMIT, CIEC, INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL FISHERY ISSUES, AND THE MULTIFIBER AGREEMENT (ALL REPORTED SEPTELS). THE MINISTERS DISCUSSIONS ON AID TO PORTUGAL, EC/CYPRUS RELATIONS, EC/CEMA RELATIONS, AND STEEL ARE REPORTED BELOW. END SUMMARY.

2. AID TO PORTUGAL. ACCORDING TO PERMREP SOURCES, THE MINISTERS AGREED THAT THE EC SHOULD SEEK CLARIFICATION OF U.S. IDEAS ON AID TO PORTUGAL DURING THE DOWNING STREET
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SUMMIT. ONE SOURCE SPECULATED THAT AN EVENTAL EC REPONSE TO THE U. S. ON THIS SUBJECT WILL HAVE TO BE DEVELOPED IN THE CONTEXT OF EC PLANS FOR ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO PREPARE PORTUGAL FOR EC MEMBERSHIP, AND WILL, THEREFORE, HAVE TO AWAIT THE RESULTS OF THE FOREIGN MINISTERS' DISCUSSIONS OF COMMUNITY ENLARGEMENT AT LEEDS CASTLE MAY 21-22. OUR SOURCES INDICATE THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTERS'

BRIEF DISCUSSION BROUGHT OUT THE VIEW THAT BALANCE OF PAYMENTS AID IS NO LONGER THE MOST ATTRACTIVE MEANS FOR COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE TO PORTUGAL AND THAT THE EC SHOULD LOOK INSTEAD TOWARD STRUCTURAL AID. A BELGIAN PERMREP SOURCE TOLD US THAT THE MINISTERS DECIDED TO SCRAP THE DRAFT EC LETTER TO SECRETARY VANCE REFERRED TO IN EC BRUSSELS 4292.

3. EC/CYPRUS: THE COUNCIL APPROVED A MANDATE FOR THE COMMISSION TO NEGOTIATE THE NEXT STAGE OF THE EC/CYPRUS ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT. THE MANDATE APPARENTLY CALLS FOR : (A) MOST PRESENT EC/CYPRUS TRADE ARRANGEMENTS TO BE EXTENDED BEYOND JULY 1, WITH ADDITIONAL NEGOTIATIONS LATER THISYEAR ON AGRICULTURAL TRADE; AND (B) NEGOTIATION OF A FINANCIAL PROTOCOL.

4 EC/CEMA RELATIONS: THE MINISTERS DISCUSSED, IN RESTRICTED SESSION, CEMA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE PRESIDENT OLSZEWSKI'S APRIL 18 LETTER (EC BRUSSELS 3950 AND 4178). AS EXPECTED, THEY SIMPLY TOOK NOTE OF THE LETTER, REACHING NO DECISION ON A REPLY.

5. STEEL: EC COMMISSIONER DAVIGNON SUBMITTED FOR FORMAL CONSULTATION WITH THE COUNCIL - PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 61(B) OF THE ECSC TREATY - HIS PROPOSAL TO INTRODUCE MINIMUM PRICES FOR CONCRETE REINFORCING BARS (EC BRUSSELS 3513). ACCORDING TO A DUTCH PERMREP SOURCE, THE ITALIANS, GERMANS, AND BRITISH REITERATED THEIR OPPOSITION TO THE SCHEME. HOWEVER, DAVIGNON ANNOUNCED ON MAY 4 THAT THE COM-
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MISSION WOULD GO AHEAD WITH IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROPOSAL IN TWO WEEKS.
HINTON

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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